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Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"
Second session
15–19 March 1999
Agenda item 4
Adoption of the report of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly

Draft report

I. Organizational matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Preparatory Committee held its second session at United Nations Headquarters from 15 to 19 March 1999. The Preparatory Committee held _____ meetings (1st to _____) and a number of informal meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women, Patricia Flor (Germany), who also made a statement.

3. At the 1st meeting, on 15 March, the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee made a statement.

4. At the same meeting, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women addressed the Preparatory Committee.

B. Attendance

5. The session was attended by representatives of _____ States members of the Preparatory Committee. Representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and

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observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in annex _____ to the present report.

C. Officers

6. At its 1st meeting, on 15 March 1999, the Preparatory Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson: Irma Engelbrecht (South Africa)

Vice-Chairpersons: Patricia Flor (Germany)
Christine Kapalata (United Republic of Tanzania)
Sonia R. Leonce-Carryl (Saint Lucia)
Mónica Martínez (Ecuador)
Kirsten Mlačak (Canada)
Rasa Ostrauskaitė (Lithuania)
Dubravka Šimonović (Croatia)

D. Agenda and organization of work

7. At its 1st meeting, on 15 March, the Preparatory Committee adopted its provisional agenda and approved its proposed organization of work as contained in document E/CN.6/1999/PC/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".
3. Provisional agenda for the third session of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly.
4. Adoption of the report of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly.

E. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

8. The Preparatory Committee considered item 2 of its agenda at its 2nd to _____ meetings, on 15, 16 and _____ March 1999.

9. At its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 15 and 16 March, the Preparatory Committee held panel discussions under the item.

10. At its 2nd meeting, on 15 March, the Preparatory Committee heard presentations by the following panel of experts: Patricia Licuanan, President of Miriam College and Professor of Psychology, Ateneo de Manila University; Mihaly Simai, Research Professor, Institute for World Economics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Asma Jahangir, United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; and Hassan Keynan, researcher, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research.

11. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee held a dialogue with the panellists in which the following delegations participated: Pakistan, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina

Faso, Nigeria, Turkey, Republic of Korea, Ghana, Senegal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Philippines, Rwanda, Malaysia, Georgia, Bangladesh, Sudan, Haiti, India, Ethiopia and Jordan.

12. The observers for the All India Women's Conference and ISIS International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, also spoke.

13. At its 3rd meeting, on 16 March, the Preparatory Committee heard presentations by the following panel of experts: Laura Balbo, Minister for Equal Opportunities, Italy; Magalys Arocha Domínguez, National Secretariat, Federation of Cuban Women Responsible for International Affairs; Diane Elson, Special Adviser to the Executive Director, United Nations Development Fund for Women; and Nirmaladevi Nababsing, Ministry of Women, Family Welfare and Child Development, Mauritius.

14. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee held a dialogue with the panellists in which the following delegations participated: Georgia, Croatia, Republic of Korea, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Haiti, Algeria, Canada, Chile, Rwanda, Philippines, Malawi, Benin, Senegal, Cameroon, Ethiopia, South Africa, Ghana, Lesotho and Kyrgyzstan.

15. The observers for the following non-governmental organizations also spoke: Global Campaign for Women's Human Rights; and Centre for Research and Documentation.

F. Documentation

16. The documents before the Preparatory Committee are listed in annex _____ to the present report.